

Serial No.: 09/490,038
Amendment dated June 13, 2002
Reply to Office Action of March 13, 2003

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for manufacturing carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction products ~~reactants~~, comprising the steps of:

~~providing first starting material, said first starting material being carboxylic acids;~~

~~providing second starting material, said second starting material being one of amino acids and amino acid condensates;~~

~~mixing, in an aqueous system, at least one carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, lactic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid, succinic acid, fumaric acid, caprylic acid, capric acid, lauric acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid, linoleic acid, pectin, pectin decomposition products, alginic acid, alginic acid decomposition products, and the salts thereof with at least one amino acid or amino acid condensate selected from the group consisting of soy protein, zein, gluten, casein, whey protein, gelatin, egg white albumin, and peptides and amino acids obtained from the decomposition thereof said first starting material and said second starting material in a high-pressure withstanding container under an aqueous system; and~~

~~heating the mixture in an absence of a reduction catalyst to a temperature greater than 100° C 105° C in a closed container capable of withstanding the pressure generated thereby until a carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction product~~

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~~is produced to cause a reaction between said first starting material and said second starting material.~~

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (withdrawn)

Claim 9 (withdrawn)

Claim 10 (withdrawn)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method for manufacturing carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction products ~~Carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reactants~~ according to claim 17, wherein N-terminals of the amino acid or amino acid condensate ~~said second starting material~~ are acid-amide bound with the carboxylic acid after reaction ~~said first starting material~~.

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Claim 12 (new): The method for manufacturing carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction products according to claim 1, wherein the carboxylic

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acid is mixed with the amino acid or amino acid condensate at a ratio between 100:1 to 1:100.

Claim 13 (new): The method for manufacturing carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction products according to claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acid is mixed with the amino acid or amino acid condensate at a ratio between 50:1 to 1:50.

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Claim 14 (new): The method for manufacturing carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction products according to claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acid is mixed with the amino acid or amino acid condensate at a ratio between 10:1 to 1:10.

Claim 15 (new): The method for manufacturing carboxylic acid and amino acid or amino acid condensate reaction products according to claim 1, wherein the mixture is heated to a temperature as high as 120°C.